

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CONSUMER POWER AND CONSERVATION
FINANCING AUTHORITY



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**CALIFORNIA LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE PRIVATE/PUBLIC
PARTNERSHIP FOR SOLAR POWER SALES TO STATE FACILITIES**

SACRAMENTO – In April the State of California launched its State Facility Solar Power Purchase Program. This program seeks to dramatically increase solar PV installations through an arrangement whereby solar companies and their investment partners install, own, and maintain solar power systems on or around State facilities. The solar companies select and design the solar system, provide the capital and financing, guarantee system performance, and are expected to utilize all available incentives, rebates and tax benefits.

Winning solar providers will operate the solar PV system for the term of the contract (20 or 25 years). The host site will sign a power purchase agreement to buy the power output at the bid price, which must be no greater than what the agency would otherwise have paid for power from their local utility or energy service provider.

The State anticipates that this business model will usher in an exciting and creative approach to enable budget-strapped government agencies to embrace solar energy on State (and other public) buildings.

Program sponsors are the California Power Authority and Department of General Services. Solar companies have been invited to bid in the program's first round of 13 sites. Project sizes range from 200 kW to 1 MW, with a potential first round total of 4-5 MW. Participating agencies and educational institutions include Corrections, General Services (State office buildings), Mental Health (State hospitals), Transportation, Calif. State University System, and the University of California. Governor Schwarzenegger is keenly following this effort to support his commitment to widespread solar installations across the state.

Thirty solar and financial companies are registered bidders, and an average of 4-6 bidder teams visited each of the offered sites. Final bids are due August 5, 2004, with qualifying firms and price winners expected to be announced in early October. For further information see: http://www.capowerauthority.ca.gov/projects/RFP_StateFacilitySolarPowerPurchaseProgram.htm or contact: Jeanne Clinton or Mark Fillinger at the California Power Authority, Tel: (916) 651-9750 or solarrfp@dgs.ca.gov.

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